AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title as follows:

--A PROCESSOR AND A METHOD IN THE PROCESSOR <u>PROVIDED</u>
<u>WITH A FLEXIBLE INTERFACE TO EXTERNAL DEVICES</u>--

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

--The preferred embodiment is also characterized in that the number of access points adapted to send a request to the interface engine can be adjusted. Thereby, the data flow through the external device can be adjusted, taking into consideration the capacity thereof and the data flow rate through the pipeline itself. Thus, by a certain flow capacity of the external device and a high flow rate through the pipeline, the number of access points allowed to send requests to the interface engine of the external device would be lower than in the case of a low flow through the pipeline and the same capacity of the external device. Similarly, for a constant data flow through the pipeline, a high capacity external device will allow more access points to ~~sent~~ <u>send</u> requests than a low capacity external device.--

Page 5, replace the paragraph beginning on line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

--The processor comprises a number of internal devices 120, e.g., co-processors, described in detail in the Swedish Patent Application No. <u>0202276-2</u>, filed by the applicant, having the same priority date as the present application, and hereby

included by reference. The pipeline is adapted to perform sequences of relatively un-complex instructions on a datastream, and the internal devices 120 are adapted to perform more complex tasks.--

Page 5, replace the paragraph beginning on line 21 and bridging pages 5 and 6 with the following amended paragraph:

--The processor also comprises a number of interface engines 130, each adapted to access an external device 140 located externally of the processor. The external device 140 could be a CAM (Content Adressable Memory), a RAM (Random Access Memory) or a co-processor. The interface engines 130 have functions corresponding to those of I/O Interfaces or Look Aside Engines. Each internal device 120 and each external device 140 can be connected to the pipeline at one or more access points 150 of the pipeline, via a coupling device 160 in the form of a switch. Preferably, as described closer in said Swedish Patent Application No. 0202276-2, each access point 150 can transmit to and receive from internal devices and external devices via a plurality of channels. In fig. 1 only two channels 163, 164 per access point 150 are shown, but a larger number of channels could also be used. For example, a first channel 163 can, via suitable configuration of the coupling device 160, be connected to either one of the internal devices 120, and a second channel 164 can, via suitable configuration of the coupling device 160, be connected to either one of the interface engines 130. The coupling device 160 could

be arranged in a number of different ways, whereby each channel 163, 164 could be connected to any of the internal devices or interface engines.   Further, the coupling device 160 could be either flexible or hard-coded.--